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Dated: March 21, 2002

Signature Richard Zimmermann  
Richard Zimmermann

Doc No.: 28911

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MAR 21 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Alison Hopkins

Application No.: 09/485,245

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: March 27, 2000

Examiner: C. Wilder

For: COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING RANDOM  
MIXTURES OF OLIGONUCLEOTIDES

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to and including March 21, 2002 to respond to the Office Action mailed September 21, 2001. Our check in the amount of \$920.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) is enclosed.

This petition is being filed in order to ensure copendency with the application being filed concurrently herewith.

In the event that a further petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application is pending on March 21, 2002.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Dated: March 21, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By William K. Merkel  
William K. Merkel

Registration No.: 40,725  
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300  
Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357  
(312) 474-6300  
Attorneys for Applicant